

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1951

U. S. PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR BEGINS TO HURT REDS

By John P. Leacocks
European Correspondent

FRANKFURT, July 31.—The newly formed National Psychological Strategy Board of the United States has begun shooting psychic bullets at the Soviet colossus with increasingly accurate marksmanship, according to reports of field operations in this critical German area.

Set up to plan and co-ordinate United States propaganda psychological and political warfare (not to mention subversion, sabotage and espionage) against the Cominform apparatus, the new American organization is making its firm hand felt on top of divergent activities of government agencies painfully lacking coherent leadership up to now.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, S.H.A.P.E. commander-in-chief, is himself keenly interested in tying in psychological warfare with military objectives in terrain where ultimate decisions may have to be reached by arms.

Germany Gets Priority

Sparked by almost unlimited (and unaudited) funds owned by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) the overall psychological command, competent sources here indicate desires above all to avoid the errors of the over-advertised O.S.S. and P.W.B. during World War II when glamour boys often spent dollars uselessly.

Achievements to date include:

- 1.—Pin-pointing more than 30 crucial world zones periled by the Russians with Germany in top priority Target areas range from "enemy" countries (like Russia) to "vulnerable" (like Iran) to "indanger" (like Italy).
- 2.—Dividing the job into two general sectors—in front of the iron curtain and in back of the iron curtain—for purposes of best tailoring message and mission for each region's unique problems.
- In front of the iron curtain, i.e., in the countries of western allies, the task is to consolidate Atlantic support and defeat Communist infiltration.
- Behind the iron curtain the aim is to undermine the Soviet system, insert microbes of fear into the ruling Red bureaucracy and plant seeds of hope in the despairing populations.

CIA Does "Dirty Work"

3.—Splitting up the type of assignments among the available United States Operating agencies, the State Department's United States Information and Education Service (USIE), the ECA Information Division and the CIA.

USIE keeps what is called "white" or overt propaganda and information work—straight news bulletins and cultural activities so as not to get its diplomatic cuffs soiled.

ECA does a mixture of "white and gray" operations. In the "gray" are activities which ECA conceives and pays for out of counterpart native currency equivalents.

CIA, obviously the most important (and secretive of the lot does the "black" or dirty work. This includes spying, sabotage, spirited away refugees from Red police, organizing so-called "resistance" blackmail, subversion and any other necessary tricks to outwit the commies at their own no-holds-barred game. CIA works closely with the military intelligence and the army's CIC.

↳ Helping organize and aiding private groups like the Crusade for Freedom and Committee for a Free Europe to join the undercover battle against communism, CIA funds gave a starting push to these two private organizations.

Radio Free Europe so far the most successful private instrument, operates two radio stations beaming programs at the satellites. One here in Frankfurt, the other at Munich, which operates exclusively for Czechoslovakia. Two more are planned shortly one of which may go to Austria.